GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:4
ANSWERED ON:17.10.2008
URBAN HOUSING AND HABITAT POLICY
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made to assess the shortage of housing in the country;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) the estimated requirement of urban housing during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period;

(d) the extent to which the new National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy (NUHHP) 2007 is likely to fulfil the requirement;

(e) whether any action plan has been prepared by the Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION(KUMARI SELJA)

(a)to(f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.4 FOR 17.10.2008 REGARDING URBAN HOUSING AND HABITAT POLICY.

(a)to(c): According to the estimates made by the Technical Group constituted by the Ministry for assessment of the urban housing shortage at the end of the 10th Five Year Plan, the total housing shortage in the country is 24.71 million. By the end of the 11th Five Year Plan period, the total housing requirement including the backlog and additional requirement is estimated as 26.53 million dwelling units.

(d)to(f): The National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy (NUHHP), 2007 seeks to set in motion a process for providing `Affordable Housing for All` particularly for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and the Low Income Group (LIG) and focuses the spotlight on multiple stake-holders namely, the Private Sector, the Cooperative Sector, the Industrial Sector for labour housing and the Services/Institutional Sector for employee housing. However, as the subjects `land` and `colonization` come under the purview of State Governments, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to deal with the problem of housing needs in the urban areas. Towards this end the Policy provides that the Central Government will encourage and support the States to prepare a State Urban Housing and Habitat Policy and also a State Urban Housing & Habitat Action Plan which should focus on accelerated flow of funds for housing (including various cost-effective slum-related options) and infrastructure. This is expected to encourage promotion of planned and balanced regional growth, creation of sustainable employment opportunities, protection of weaker sections/ vulnerable groups preferably in their present residential location, conservation of urban environment and promotion of public private partnerships. Apart from NUHHP-2007 the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) launched by the Government in 2005 caters to provision of housing and basic services to urban poor in 63 specified cities under the sub-mission of Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and in other cities and towns under Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP).
Further, provision has been made in the current financial year 2008-09 to provide for the proposed interest rate subsidy scheme for housing loans to Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and the Low Income Group (LIG).